

If Christ Had Not Come

SUPPOSE ---



CHRISTMAS 1945

Suppose that Christ had not been born
That far-away Judean morn.
Suppose that God, whose mighty hand
Created worlds, had never planned
A way for man to be redeemed.
Suppose the wise men only dreamed
That guiding star whose light still glows
Down through the centuries. Suppose
Christ never walked here in men's sight,
Our blessed Way, and Truth, and Light.
Suppose He counted all the cost,
And never cared that we were lost,
And never died for you and me,
Nor shed His blood on Calvary
Upon a shameful cross. Suppose
That having died, He never rose,
And there was none with power to save
Our souls from death beyond the grave!
As far as piteous heathen know,
These things that I've "supposed"—are so.

—Martha Snell Nicholson.

"Well, hello!" "My, but it is good to see you again." This or a similar exchange of greeting has been heard frequently during the past months as alumni and former students have spent a few hours or days at Bryan.

* * *

Frequent visits last year and another visit during Thanksgiving week this year have helped Albert Wyllie '44 to keep in closer touch with Bryan activities, but his farewells this time are expected to be the last until after a term of missionary service in Africa. He hopes to sail within a few weeks under Sudan Interior Mission.

* * *

You who know Beatrice Morgan '45, can enjoy her gleeful exclamations as she set foot on Bryan soil again. We tried to see "double" but there just was no twin since Dot's hopes to visit didn't work out.

It was good to welcome one of our former students, Carl Zytowski, ex'44, as he traveled Tennessee way after being discharged from the Army.

The Bryan family could scarce cease applause in appreciation of the recital that Carl gave with the able assistance of Bea Morgan as accompanist, who also delighted her hearers with her masterful piano solos.

* * *

WHEN ARE YOU GOING TO 'COME HOME?!--a letter would help!

Quite as a surprise Lt. Leonard Winstead '44 sacrificed a plane ride to take a train from Memphis in order to stop at Bryan. He witnessed to the Lord's care and direction during his training days in the Air Corps of the U. S. Army.

* * *

Mark Levensgood '42 had a thrilling tale to relate to his parents and friends when he returned recently from the Pacific war area. In public testimony he mentioned the opportunities that the Lord had given for teaching Bible classes on board ship and for witnessing to his fellow seamen. After a trip back to California he expects to be discharged and to continue his education.

* * *

John Quimby '45 said he didn't know why he was so glad to be back at Bryan unless it could have been to see someone--yes, and Wilda Chapman left school a little later to join the ranks of ex-students and accept the hand of her Johnny.

* * *

Fred Manning, ex'47, was with the C. B. C. students who attended the F. M. F. regional conference held this fall at Bryan, during the week of Thanksgiving.

* * *

Alvada Coppingier, ex'36, brought several young people from Sale Creek to hear missionary speakers at the F. M. F. session

* * *

As though quite at home, Mary B. Rogers, ex'46, shared our joys at the Christmas banquet, when another Chatterbox guest, Dr. Lee Roberson, was the speaker of the evening.

✱
✱
✱

The former Emma Rea Bechtel (Corky) ex'38, now Mrs. Eric Ingram, spent a day on old Bryan stamping ground with her husband, who has recently returned from overseas Navy duty, her son, and Mrs. Ingram, senior.

*
*
*

It was the fulfillment of several weeks anticipation to see Lillian Borgard Peck '45 just last week, but an unexpected courtesy of Uncle Sam's Navy that allowed Earl Peck, ex'47, to join his wife in a visit here and to proceed with her to Florida for a bit of sunshine.

✱
✱
✱

During her vacation from Kings' College, Lillian Levengood, ex'47, has been visiting former classmates on Bryan Hill.

*
*
*

Time out to greet Lt. Vinton Fish, ex-'39, who just stopped in on his way to Philadelphia.

10

THE BRYANT

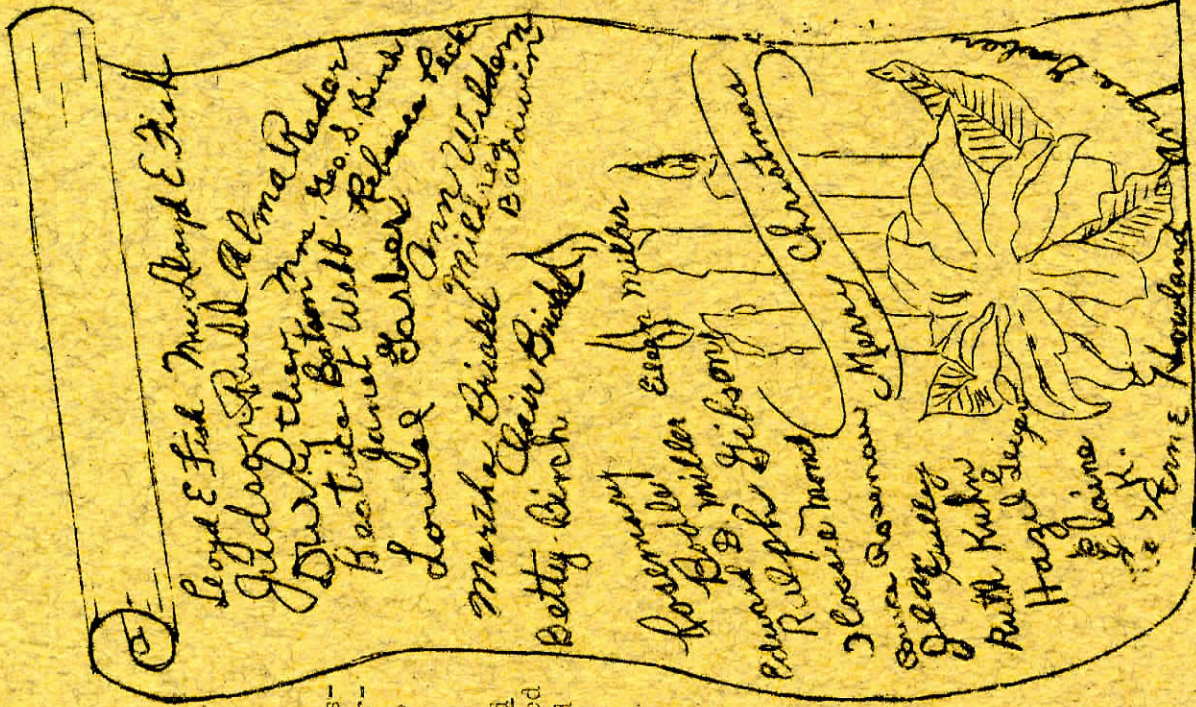
Alumni News Shoot

Editor Rebecca Poole

Circulation Mar.. Mary Lois Fish

December 1945

Issue No. 7



Ralph '37 and Rebecca '38 Toller, Szech-

wan, West China

"... the day that Sylvia put in her appearance was October 10th, the birthday of the Chinese Republic. The pleasure of our Chinese friends that little Sylvia should be born on such an auspicious day somewhat offset my disappointment at reaching here just 30 minutes after the wee lady arrived in the adjoining compound. ... Sylvia has put on a pound in the last three weeks, and her blue eyes show no indication of turning any other color. ... Sylvia looks as if she will be more of the 'mama's little darling' type of infant.

"Once since coming back from Kiang-tsing a month ago, I have preached on Sunday morning at the church (connected with the Chungking Theological Seminary now in Ipín) and it was to quite an erudite congregation. ... It was a 'practice preach.' It was the last part of the oral examination in connection with my sixth and last language section. It has required seven years to complete this course; the normal is six years, though of course it varies.

"Last week I had the privilege of speaking every morning for 20 minutes in the chapel program of the seminary. It was my first experience of this kind in China.

"The Lord willing, we expect to see you next spring, if current plans for our furlough work out. ... Rebecca finds her time monopolized by the younger generation. At any rate, she sends her love."

William J. Daugherty '37, Millersburg, O.

"... Mrs. Daugherty and I are doing American Sunday School Union work. Two weeks ago we organized a Sunday School in our community with 32 present last Sunday. We found a man who said, "God surely sent you to us;" he and his wife had attended a junior college in Michigan in 1928. They were away from God and have not been to church for many years--modernism had torn them up. He is now back to God and is superintendent of that Sunday School. ...

"I met the Lester Pifers while at Winona Lake. ... I certainly am glad Dean Ryther is back. ... I'm glad the Shirleys are on the staff; they are good Bryanites."

"Miss Juanita Pendergrass '37, Dayton, Tenn. was elected president of the First Baptist YWA at a meeting Monday night at the home of Mrs. Ralph Porter."--Dayton (Teacher at Frazier Grammar) Herald

Capt. S. D. Hodges '36, Chattanooga, Tenn.

More than two years of overseas service in the Pacific area including hospitalization for tropical disease were quite sufficient to make homecoming and release on terminal leave from the Army a real pleasure to S. D. His wife and daughter, Caroline, are glad to have husband and father back to reside in Chattanooga.

"CHRIST in you,
the HOPE of GLORY."

J. Holmes Smith, '40, En route Congo
Belge, Africa (written from New York)

"After many trials and tribulations . . . we are finally about to set sail for the Belgian Congo in the heart of Africa. . . The Lord has blessed me with a helpmeet. On May 27, 1945, Elizabeth Neel became Mrs. Smith. . . We spent our honeymoon in Gatlinburg, Tenn. . . In August we spent three weeks at Montreat, N. C., taking the course in Linguistics, Phonetics, and French. . . .

"On Nov. 1, we received word that there was a Portuguese steamer. . . sailing from Phil. on Nov. 27, and for us to be in New York on Nov. 22. We went to Decatur, Ga., and visited with my mother while we completed our packing. . . . We arrived in New York Sunday morning and were greeted with the news that we were not sailing on a Portuguese ship but on an Army transport, sailing from New York to Port Said, Egypt. . .

"This has been one hectic four days in New York. Due to baggage regulations and the uncertainty of travel from Egypt to the Congo, we have had to repack one trunk and ship another. . . The Lord has blessed Elizabeth and me in various ways too numerous to count."

. . . More Wedding bells . . .

Eva Ziegler, ex '47, was united in marriage on Nov. 23 to former serviceman Alvin Gariss in Rochester, Ohio.

-5-
Ben S. White, '40, Honduras, C. A.

"The trip down by Pan American Air Line, leaving Brownsville, Texas, Sept. 21, early in the morning, was quite enjoyable. . .

"At the present time I am living in the Mission home in Comayaguella, but I may later rent a house so that I can live with a native boy, thus getting more training in Spanish, since he knows no English. . . I have been studying Spanish ever since my arrival and I will be having lessons with a native instructor five times a week. . . I ask your prayers that I may soon learn Spanish and the ways of the people so that I can be about the business of spreading the Gospel in this needy land.

"I have had opportunity to preach each Sunday since I have been here in the English services held in Tegucigalpa. . . I am thankful for this opportunity of witness while I am doing my language study. The native people seem friendly, yet there is much spiritual darkness. The believers are a grand group, but they seem so few among the multitude of those who know and care nothing about our Saviour. There is much indifference to the things of the Lord here in the capitol and sin is regarded lightly. Pray that God will open the eyes of many of these people to their need of the Saviour."

"Among whom ye shine as lights in the world."

Charlotte Sapp Martin, ex '40, Dock, Ky.

"We conducted a three week revival this fall. . . Three nights before closing the 'break' came. Eight souls came out. . . What a blessing we had, only God knows. Eleven new converts and four backsliders reclaimed was the total when the end came. The meetings were orderly, and quiet. . . The work was all of God.

"An old man from another Creek came to Mr. Martin with tears and said, 'Won't you come to our Creek? We are starving to death for the Gospel.' . . .

"We are not too well in body. God has marvelously sustained. . .

"A problem has arisen here. A certain denomination that seems to specialize in running out missionaries has decided to come to our Creek to hold services one Sunday a month. Pray that God will overrule and bring their plans to naught. . ."

Dorothy White Wilson, '40, Medina, Ohio

"Indeed we do hope to visit Bryan whenever Paul gets home. He's due to land soon if the reports are actualities. He's been awaiting transportation since Oct. 20. Very discouraging to the boys over there in the Philippines. God is again proving faithful.

"Irene is 18 months old and such a great comfort during all this waiting."

Cpl. John W. Toliver was honorably discharged from the service on Nov. 30th, at the Army Air Force convalescent hospital at Plattsburg, N. Y. --Dayton Herald

Capt. Hugh C. Gallagher, ex '40 called his parents from San Francisco following his arrival from Luzon. . . He has served with the anti-aircraft forces since he enlisted in July 1941. Two years later, he was sent overseas and served in Australia and New Guinea before going to the Philippines.

----- (Dayton Herald) --

Ed. Note: Capt. Gallagher made his appearance in Dayton last week and told of returning from the Philippines on the same boat with Capt. S. D. Hodges.

Louise Post, '41, Lancaster, Penna.

"I fully expected to be back in Ky. but the Lord knows better than we do what is best for us.

"It seems that some time or other since my last visit to the doctor in February, I have had rheumatic fever and never realized it. This has had an effect on my heart. Though not serious, that is what has detained me from returning.

"I have had so many rich treats by my prolonged visit. First of all we had a Young Peoples' Conference from Nov. 2-4. Mr. Mundell and Rev. Geiger were the speakers. . .

"Esther (coworker) and I expect to leave Decoy and start a work in another district. The Mission believes it is too difficult a field for two single workers. It seems advisable that I stay out of the packing and moving so it isn't likely that I will get back to Decoy at all. . ."

Ed. Note: Recent news says Louise is now at Guage, Ky.

Richard and Eileen Langford, '43, Dallas.

"... I imagine these days are busy ones at Bryan with exams approaching. I know our vacation will be spent with Langy working on his thesis. It will be due the last of April. . .

"Friday mornings I take in the teacher training class of the Child Evangelism Fellowship of Dallas. I am getting so many grand pointers and instructions. . . And the Good News Club I have each Wed. at the Mexican Mission is proving such a blessing to me. . .

"Bertie and Joe are now living in the Seminary apartments right across the street, but we don't seem to see much of each other.

Eugene and Ernestine Rosenau '44,

(Now in New Jersey)

"Greetings to you at this joyful Christmas season. . .

"We are looking forward to telling of the Savior to those in Africa. . .

"The Gripsholm sails to Egypt (in Jan) . . . An American freighter is leaving for our coast of Africa about the same time. Pray with us that a definite booking may be secured in New York. . . Most of our baggage has been shipped out to Africa. . .

"Anna Kay is five months old now and has grown to be a big healthy girl of nineteen pounds. . . Do pray for strength for the long trip ahead and also for our French and . . . Songo lessons."

Gordon Matheny, ex '43, Clendenin, W. Va.

"After four years in the service of our country a taste of civilian life isn't bad at all. I received my discharge soon after returning from Germany and with a few days' rest I shall take up my schooling.

"It was a desire of mine to return to Bryan but, at present, I find that impossible. My chance meeting with Jimmy Doud ('42) in Paris brought back memories of Dayton.

"... My education is to be a serious matter with me, and I intend to make the most of every opportunity. It took a lot of hard knocks to make me see all the chances I threw away.

"Several of my friends from Bryan were kind enough to correspond with me while I was overseas and they gave me much courage. I often felt that it was prayer alone that brought us to such a great victory. God certainly was good to me and I shall never forget."

George S. Birch, ex '45, Guam

"It looks as though another Christmas away from you is assured. I sincerely wish it could have been otherwise, but I feel He has a purpose in my being here. I'm experiencing things here I never would have dreamed of as part of a Christian worker's training--not the least of which is life on this tropical isle. When the heat; and insects, and water shortages, and daily rains, and leaky tents, and short tempers, and loneliness get others down; He never lets me down. He's a wonderful Saviour and Friend."

Royal ex'44, and Dorothy '45, Grote
Pensacola, Florida

"... Never shall we be able to repay what Bryan has given to us. Even when I think of 'Bryan' I get a great big lump in my throat and I long to be there. Yes, I really get homesick for Bryan.

"... We have just moved to Pensacola to a lovely home thirteen blocks from Richard, Jean, and Nancy (Howrey). We see them all the time now--in fact, Richard just left. We spent Thanksgiving Day together and we devoured a twelve and one-half pound turkey plus all the trimmings. We just received the BRYANETTE and Richard Royal, and I were discussing each news item. The presence of the Howreys makes it so much easier to live so far from home and Bryan (our second home). There's nothing quite like Christian fellowship and friendship to satisfy our living in strange places. There are several fundamental churches here...

"I must tell you how wonderful little Nancy is. Jean is an ideal 'Mother' for Nancy. Her training by Christian parents has made her the most lovable child anyone could desire...

"As I endeavour to teach 36 children in the second grade, I'll try to use every thing that was taught me at Bryan. Even though it is a low grade it will require great responsibility and patience.

"Royal is now instructing in SBD's and soon will do carrier landings again!"

Gwen Hay, '45, Waverly, Iowa

"We leave for New York tomorrow, (Dec. 11) and will probably be sailing before this time next week. I would have enjoyed a trip to the South and Bryan before leaving, but when one is a missionary there are certain things one has to give up. I will not be able to stop in Cleveland to see Matilda as I had planned, so everything will have to wait for four years. I can imagine the changes there will be at my Alma Mater when I next return.

"I have been delighted to hear the splendid reports of the spirit and fellowship at Bryan this year. It has done my heart good, because we have recommended the school to so many people, and the more and better reports which come from there make it even more worthwhile to advertise it...

"As you can imagine, these last few days have been rather hectic, and the actual break from home is not so easy, but it is a thrill to realize that the Lord has called us and has supplied and led every step of our journey so far. I am rather looking forward to the trip through the Mediterranean and Egypt. All my life I have wanted to see the far places of the earth, and it looks as if I am starting off in the right way."

(Latest message tells of plans for sailing on Marine Panther on Dec. 20.)